proved For Release 2001/03/04 : CIA-RDP81-00142R000500070007-6 THE ASSOCIATION OF BLACK PSYCHOLOGISTS

POST OFFICE BOX 2929

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20013

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1978-1979 OFFICERS

Maisha H. Bennett, Ph.D. Chairwoman

Ruth E. G. King, Ed.D. Past Chairwoman

Joseph C. Awkard, Ph.D. Chairman Elect

Teres Scott-Myers, M.S. Treasurer

Jean-Marie B. Mayas, Ph.D. Secretary

November 2, 1978

Stansfield Turner, Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D.C. 20505

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES Dear Mr. Turner;

Leon Green, Ph.D. East

Nyala Joan Smith, Ph.D. Midwest

C. Diane Howell, Ph.D. West

Nsenga Warfield-Coppock, M.Ed. Executive Administrator

Thank you for your letter dated August 30, 1978 STATINT regarding the participation of | as a recruiter at the nineteen seventy-eight convention of The Association of Black Psychologists (ABPsi) in St. David L. Terrell, Ph.DSTATINTLouis, Missouri. As reported, members of the executive committee of ABPsi did confer about his presence as a recruiter and did decide to ask him to stop recruiting at our convention.

> Our decision was a difficult one. However, it was based on the expressed sentiments of our membership. As I am sure you well know, the CIA has received a considerable amount of unfavorable media coverage in recent years; coverage with which our members are indeed familiar. Consequently, it was felt that recruitment by the CIA at this time might be disruptive to our meeting. Furthermore, our convention was tightly organized around a central theme and specific agenda items. With many issues to deal with in a short period of time, we felt we could not afford to distract our members from ABPsi concerns to CIA concerns.

We are gratified by your interest in employment opportunities for Black professionals and your commitment to a program of Equal Employment Opportunity. We are likewise concerned about the high unemployment rate for Black people, especially for Black youth, and we commend any government agency willing to make inroads into rectifying this appalling situation. also applaud your interest in "rooting out anti-Black prejudices" because we agree that such feelings adversely affect the quality of life for all Black people.

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ABPsi recognizes the vital role which the CIA plays in guaranteeing the national security and promoting the growth and development of this country. Our organization also seeks to make a positive contribution to America through programs which enhance the psychological well-being of all Black people.

I hope that I have adequately answered the issues you raised in your letter. If I can be of further assistance, please feel free to call me at (312) 947-7902.

Sincerely,

Maisha B. H. Bennett

Maisha B. H. Bennett, Ph.D. Chairwoman, ABPsi

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C.C.

Executive Committee

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DD/A 78-3196/2

30 AUG 1978

Dr. Maisha Bennett Chairperson-Elect Association of Black Psychologists 7200 South Crandon Chicago, Illinois 60649

Dear Dr. Bennett:

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One of our recruiters, attended the Convention of Association of Black Psychologists in St. Louis on 10 August. He reports that based on a discussion with your colleagues, you advised him to refrain from attempts to recruit Black pyschologists. He did make clear that he was treated cordially by Convention officials and participants and the concern for recruitment merely represented a generally negative view toward the Agency.

I am disturbed by your action since I, personally, am committed to having Black professionals take their rightful place in the Federal Government, particularly in CIA. Our recruitment effort has been strengthened in the area of minority hiring and conventions such as that of the Association of Black Psychologists provide an opportunity to contact a sizeable group of professional Blacks. It could well be that among your group there are those who would be interested in Agency employment or at least in learning more about our service.

As you may know, I have served in the military for all of my professional life until coming to CIA. In my short time here I have found this Agency to be staffed with as dedicated and capable people as one could find anywhere. The mission of the Agency is absolutely vital to the security of our nation. We need to staff our organization with the best talent available regardless of race, sex, creed or color. I am deeply concerned that we would be barred from talking to highly qualified people who might be interested in employment with us.

One final thought. It occurs to me that only through the employment of highly qualified Blacks can we truly make

progress in rooting out antiblack prejudice. As stated above, I am committed to a program of Equal Employment Opportunity and feel strongly that our recruitment efforts must be directed toward attracting the best talent our nation is able to provide. It is with that in mind that our recruitment efforts extend to professional institutions and associations.

Should you be in the Washington area in the near future, I would be glad to meet with you regarding the Agency and its personnel needs. The telephone number 1s 351-6363.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ Stansfield Turner

STANSFIELD TURNER

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Executive Registry

18-2276

22 AUG 1918

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

VIA : Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

FROM : John F. Blake

Deputy Director for Administration

SUBJECT : Reaction to Agency Recruiter at Convention

Sir:

I believe that you should know of the following:

Convention of the Association of Black Psychologists in St. Louis on 10 August. Who is himself a Black, called his supervisor in Headquarters to advise her that he had been asked to halt his recruitment activity at the Convention. The Chairperson-Elect of STATINTITHE Association, Dr. Bennett, after meeting with her colleagues, advised that the group had voted to request that he have no more contacts and make no further attempts to recruit Black psychologists. The reason given was that the Association "is not happy about CIA's activities against Blacks, especially in Africa." was invited to remain under those ground rules, but he thought it best to leave the STATIN Convention and return to Headquarters. I should add that the conversation between and the Convention officials was not of an

unpleasant nature. Some of these people simply had this negative view

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